23. Public Instruction.—Education made substantial progress during the year. There was an increase of 112 schools and 2,868 scholars. Out of the school-going population of boys nearly 27 per cent. and of girls nearly 14 per cent. were under instruction. The results of the public examinations were favourable. A Physical Laboratory was opened in His Highness the Maha Raja's College and arrangements are being made for attaching a hostel to the College. There were 17 Technical Schools, with 837 pupils in them, receiving instruction in engineering and commercial subjects and in the arts of weaving, carpentry, blacksmith's work, lace-making, embroidery, drawing and painting. The new Fee Regulation came into force, under which the rates of fees in Boys' schools were raised and half-rates in English Schools for Girls were for the first time introduced. Government have under contemplation the appointment of an Inspectress of Girls' Schools and the introduction of manual training in educational institutions. The receipts and expenditure of the Educational Department amounted to Rs. 1,45,717 and Rs. 7,11,181 respectively. The net cost to Government was Rs. 5,65,464 as against Rs. 5,51,742 in the previous year.

24. Finance.—I have ordered the final statements of receipts and expenditure for 1082 to be circulated to all the members. A summary of the figures is given below :—

	Service Heads.	Debt Heads.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts of 1082	1,01,72,816	1,42,15,178	2,43,87,994
Add opening balance	68,34,017	21,48,560	89,82,577
Total.....	1,70,06,833	1,63,63,738	3,33,70,571
Disbursements of 1082	1,03,76,478	1,45,82,434	2,49,58,912
Add closing balance	66,30,355	17,81,304	84,11,659
Total.....	1,70,06,833	1,63,63,738	3,33,70,571

The disbursements under "service heads" exceeded the receipts under those heads by Rs. 2,03,662. That was the deficit of the year. If the outlay of over 3½ lakhs of rupees incurred on the Kodayar works had been charged to capital account, there would have been, not a deficit, but a surplus of about a lakh and a half of rupees. Compared to 1081, the receipts of 1082 showed an increase under several heads, aggregating in all to Rs. 6,81,656. The disbursements decreased by Rs. 34,383. The result was that the deficit of 1082 was only Rs. 2,03,662, as against a deficit of Rs. 9,19,701 which occurred in the previous year. I trust,

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gentlemen, that you will accept the assurance of Government that the finances of the State are receiving careful consideration.

A Malayalam translation of the Address was read to the Assembly by the Head Translator to Government.

At the conclusion of the Address, the Dewan spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen,— The practice appears to have been, after the reading of the Address, to begin with the questions. It was represented to me yesterday by some of the members elected to this Assembly that it would be more convenient if they were given a little time, so that they could consider these questions among themselves, and wherever a number of gentlemen had given notice of any question they could choose from among themselves one or two to speak on the same, and in that way we could get through the work a little more rapidly. Of course, this is a matter entirely for you. So far as I am concerned, I recognise that every member who has given notice of any question is entitled to put it and I am bound to hear him. But I will put it to you whether it will not conduce to the saving of time, if you meet among yourselves and consider these things and see if you cannot come to some arrangement in regard to questions which have been given notice of by more than one member and choose one or two people to talk upon each subject. For that purpose, I am prepared to give you time.

There is another reason why I am anxious that you should take some time. You have not yet had time to consider what I have said in my Address. We have now circulated among you copies of the Address, both in English and in the Vernacular and of the list of subjects. Probably, if you read what I have said and think about it a bit, some of you who have given notice of particular questions may possibly take the view that, after all, it would be as well not to discuss them at any great length, because in regard to questions which are under the consideration of Government, though we will be very glad to hear whatever you have to say, it will probably not do much good to discuss them at any very great length. I only make all these suggestions for your consideration. You are not bound to accept any of them. Every one of you can talk on every one of the subjects he has proposed. We shall now disperse and meet here again at 11 A. M. to-morrow, when I shall take up the questions in the order in which they have been notified.

The Assembly adjourned at 1-10 P. M.

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